Amendments to the Claims:

1-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the rendering of digital content comprising:

storing digital content and usage rights information associated with the digital content in a repository,

said usage rights information specifying a manner by which the digital content can be rendered;

receiving requests for stored digital content and, in response thereto, causing a requested digital content and the associated usage rights information to be transmitted to the requester over a communications medium; and

enforcing usage of the digital content in accordance with the usage rights information,

~~whereby~~ wherein the requested digital content cannot be rendered by the requester in the absence of a rights enforcement ~~architecture~~ mechanism, and ~~whereby~~

rendering of the requested digital content by the requester is only in accordance with the usage rights information.

9. (Currently amended) The method ~~according to~~ as recited in claim 8, wherein said storing step comprises storing the usage rights information on the same storage medium as the digital content.

10. (Currently amended) The method ~~according to~~ as recited in claim 8, wherein said storing step comprises storing the usage rights information on a storage medium separate from a storage medium on which the digital content is stored.

11. (Currently amended) The method ~~according to~~ as recited in claim 8, wherein the usage rights information includes conditions that must be satisfied in order to permit rendering of the digital content.

12. (Currently amended) The method ~~according to~~ as recited in claim 8, wherein the usage rights information includes fee information.

13. (Currently amended) The method ~~according to~~ as recited in claim 8, wherein the usage rights information specifies circumstances under which the digital content can be rendered.

14. (Currently amended) The method ~~according to~~ as recited in claim 11, wherein the conditions include a fee to be collected in connection with the rendering of the digital content.

15. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for controlling rendering of digital content, the instructions comprising:

instructions for storing ~~encrypted~~ digital content in a first repository;

instructions for associating with the digital content usage rights information specifying a manner by which the digital content can be rendered;

instructions for receiving a request ~~from a requester~~ for the digital content; [[and]]

instructions for causing the requested digital content and the usage rights information to be transmitted from the first repository to ~~the requester~~ a second repository in response to the request for the digital content; and

instructions for enforcing rendering of the digital content in accordance with the usage rights information,

wherein the requested digital content cannot be rendered by the second repository in the absence of a rights enforcement mechanism, and

rendering of the requested digital content by the requester is only in accordance with the usage rights information.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein the usage rights information specifies a condition that must be satisfied in order for the requester to render the digital content.

18. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the condition ~~includes~~ comprises a fee to be collected in connection with the rendering of the digital content.

19. (Currently amended) A method of rendering digital content having usage rights information associated therewith, the usage rights information specifying a manner by which the digital content can be rendered, the method comprising:

receiving the digital content;

receiving the usage rights information associated with the digital content;

receiving a request to render the digital content;

determining, based on the usage rights information associated with the digital content, whether the content can be rendered in accordance with the request; [[and]]

rendering the digital content in accordance with the request only if it is determined that the content can be rendered in accordance with the request; and

denying the request and preventing rendering of the digital content if it is determined that the digital content cannot be rendered in accordance with the request.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the usage rights information is stored on the same storage medium as the digital content.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the usage rights information is stored on a storage medium that is separate from a storage medium on which the digital content is stored.

22. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising:

determining based on the usage rights information a fee to be collected in connection with rendering the digital content; and

collecting the fee prior to said rendering step.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said step of collecting the fee comprises creating a debit against a user account.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein said step of collecting the fee further comprises reporting the debit to a clearinghouse.

25. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of obtaining credit information relating to a user from a credit agency prior to collecting the fee.

26-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 26~~ claim 22, wherein the usage rights information specifies a fee to be collected as a condition to rendering the digital content, and

wherein said denying step is based at least in part on non-payment of [[the]] a monetary amount of the fee as determined in said determining step.

34. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for rendering digital content having usage rights information associated therewith and specifying how the digital content can be rendered, the medium comprising:

instructions for receiving the digital content;

instructions for receiving the usage rights information associated with the digital content;

instructions for receiving a request to render the digital content;

instructions for determining, based on the usage rights information associated with the digital content, whether the digital content can be rendered in accordance with the request; [[and]]

instructions for rendering the digital content in accordance with the request only if it is determined that the content can be rendered in accordance with the request; and

instructions for denying the request if the usage rights information does not indicate that the digital content can be rendered in accordance with the request.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of ~~claim 35~~ claim 34, further comprising:

instructions for determining, based on the usage rights information, a fee to be collected in connection with rendering the digital content; and

instructions for collecting the fee.

37. (Currently amended) A system for controlling rendering of digital content having usage rights information associated therewith, said system comprising:

a rendering system which issues a request to render the digital content; and

a ~~rights~~ repository which:

receives the digital content, the usage rights information associated with the digital content, and the request to render the digital content,

examines the usage rights information associated with the digital content, ~~[and]~~

grants ~~or denies~~ the request to render the digital content ~~based on whether~~ if the rights information permits rendering of the digital content in accordance with the request, and

denies the request to render the digital content if the rights information does not permit rendering of the digital content in accordance with the request.

38. (Currently amended) The system of claim 37, wherein the usage rights information ~~includes~~ comprises a condition and wherein the rights repository grants or denies the request based at least in part on whether the condition is satisfied.

39. (Original) The system of claim 38, wherein the condition comprises a requirement that a fee be collected prior to rendering the digital content, and wherein the rights repository ensures that payment has been collected prior to granting a request to render the digital content.

40. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the steps of receiving the digital content, receiving the usage rights information associated with the digital content, and receiving the request to render the digital content are performed relatively in any temporal order.

41. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the instructions for receiving the digital content, receiving the usage rights information associated with the digital content, and receiving the request to render the digital content are performed relatively in any temporal order.

42. (New) The system of claim 37, wherein the digital content, the usage rights information associated with the digital content, and the request to render the digital content are received relatively in any temporal order.

43. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the instructions for receiving the digital content comprise instructions for receiving the digital content from a storage medium.

44. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 43, wherein the storage medium is part of the computer-readable medium.

45. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the instructions for receiving the usage rights information associated with digital content include instructions for loading the usage rights information associated with digital content from the computer-readable medium.

46. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein the usage rights information is embodied in software instructions which implement use privileges for the usage rights information.

47. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the usage rights information is embodied in software instructions which implement use privileges for the usage rights information.

48. (New) A method of rendering digital content having usage rights information associated therewith, the usage rights information specifying a manner by which the digital content can be rendered, said method comprising:

establishing trust for receiving the digital content;

receiving the digital content;

receiving a request to render the digital content;

determining, based on the usage rights information associated with the digital content, whether the content can be rendered in accordance with the request;

rendering the digital content in accordance with the request only if it is determined that the content can be rendered in accordance with the request; and

denying the request and preventing rendering of the digital content if it is determined that the digital content cannot be rendered in accordance with the request.

49. (New) The method as recited in claim 8, further comprising:

authorizing the repository for using the digital content, wherein the digital content can be used only by an authorized repository, the step of authorizing the repository comprising:

making a request for an authorization object required to be included within the repository to use the digital content;

determining whether the request for an authorization object should be granted; and

transmitting the authorization object to the repository if it is determined that the request should be granted.

50. (New) The computer readable medium as recited in claim 15, further comprising:

instructions for authorizing the repository for using the digital content, wherein the digital content can be used only by an authorized repository, the instructions for authorizing the repository comprising:

instructions for making a request for an authorization object required to be included within the repository to use the digital content; and

instructions for receiving the authorization object if it is determined that the request should be granted.

51. (New) The method as recited in claim 19, further comprising:

authorizing a repository for using the digital content, wherein the digital content can be used only by an authorized repository, the step of authorizing the repository comprising:

making a request for an authorization object required to be included within the repository to use the digital content;

determining whether the request for an authorization object should be granted; and

transmitting the authorization object to the repository if it is determined that the request should be granted.

52. (New) The computer readable medium as recited in claim 34, further comprising:

instructions for authorizing a repository for using the digital content, wherein the digital content can be used only by an authorized repository, the instructions for authorizing the repository comprising:

instructions for making a request for an authorization object required to be included within the repository to use the digital content; and

instructions for receiving the authorization object if it is determined that the request should be granted.

53. (New) The system as recited in claim 37, further comprising:

means for authorizing the repository for making the digital content available for use, wherein the digital content can be made available for use only by an authorized repository, the means for authorizing the repository comprising:

means for making a request for an authorization object required to be included within the repository to make the digital content available for use;

means for determining whether the request for an authorization object should be granted; and

means for transmitting the authorization object to the repository if it is determined that the request should be granted.

54. (New) The method as recited in claim 48, wherein said step of establishing trust comprises authorizing a repository for using the digital content, wherein the digital content can be used only by an authorized repository, the step of authorizing the repository comprising:

making a request for an authorization object required to be included within the repository to use the digital content;

determining whether the request for an authorization object should be granted; and

transmitting the authorization object to the repository if it is determined that the request should be granted.

55. (New) The method as recited in claim 8, further comprising:

requesting access to the digital content stored in the repository;

determining whether the repository is permitted to transmit the digital content specified by the request; and

transmitting the digital content to a second repository only if the repository is permitted to transmit the digital content.

56. (New) The computer readable medium as recited in claim 15, further comprising:

instructions for receiving requests to transport the digital content stored in the repository;

instructions for determining whether the repository is permitted to transport the digital content specified by the request; and

instructions for transporting the digital content to a second repository only if the repository is permitted to transport the digital content.

57. (New) The method as recited in claim 19, further comprising:

requesting to transport the digital content;

determining whether the repository is permitted to transport the digital content specified by the request; and

transporting the digital content to a second repository only if the repository is permitted to transport the digital content.

58. (New) The computer readable medium as recited in claim 34, further comprising:

instructions for receiving a request to transport the digital content;

instructions for determining whether the repository is permitted to transport the digital content specified by the request; and

instructions for transporting the digital content to a second repository only if the repository is permitted to transport the digital content.

59. (New) The system as recited in claim 37, further comprising:

means for receiving a request to transport the digital content stored in the repository;

means for determining whether the repository is permitted to transport the digital content specified by the request; and

means for transporting the digital content to a second repository only if the repository is permitted to transport the digital content.

60. (New) The method as recited in claim 48, further comprising:

requesting to transport the digital content;

determining whether the repository is permitted to transport the digital content specified by the request; and

transporting the digital content to a second repository only if the repository is permitted to transport the digital content.

61. (New) An apparatus for rendering digital content in accordance with rights that are enforced by the apparatus, said apparatus comprising:

a rendering engine configured to render digital content;

a storage for storing the digital content;

means for requesting use of the digital content stored in the storage; and

a repository coupled to the rendering engine,

wherein the repository includes:

means for processing a request from the means for requesting,

means for checking whether the request is for a permitted rendering of the digital content in accordance with rights specified in the apparatus, and

means for processing the request to make the digital content available to the rendering engine for rendering if the request is for a permitted rendering of the digital content.

62. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, wherein the means for checking comprises means for comparing a requested use with a use specified by the rights.

63. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61 wherein the means for checking comprises means for checking if a particular key is assigned to the repository.

64. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, further comprising means for requesting a transfer of the digital content from an external memory to the storage.

65. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, wherein the digital content is audio content.

66. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 65, wherein the audio content is music.

67. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, wherein the digital content is video content.

68. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, wherein the apparatus is a portable device.

69. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, wherein the rights are provided by a provider of the digital content.

70. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, wherein the means for processing comprises transmitting the digital content to the rendering engine.

71. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, wherein the digital content comprises a composite digital work comprising plural digital works.

72. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, wherein the rendering engine is configured to render digital content into a medium that is not further protected by rights and the request is for rendering the digital content into a medium that is not further protected by rights.

73. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 72, wherein the medium is an optical disk.

74. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, wherein the means for checking comprises checking whether a maximum number of renderings of the digital content have been made.

75. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, wherein the rights are embodied in software instructions which implement the use privileges for the rights.

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76. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, further comprising means for authorizing the repository for making the digital content available for rendering, wherein the digital content can be made available for rendering only by an authorized repository, comprising:

means for making a request for an authorization object required to be included within the repository for the apparatus to render the digital content; and

means for receiving the authorization object if it is determined that the request should be granted.

77. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, further comprising:

means for receiving requests for transporting the digital content stored in the storage;

means for determining whether a second repository is permitted to receive the digital content specified by the request; and

means for transporting the digital content to the second repository only if the second repository is permitted to receive the digital content.

78. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 61, further comprising:

means for requesting receipt of digital content stored outside the apparatus; and

means for receiving the digital content if the apparatus is permitted to receive the digital content.

79. (New) A system for controlling use of digital content by authorizing at least one repository for making the digital content available for use wherein the digital content can be made available for use only by an authorized repository, said system comprising:

at least one repository for making a request for an authorization object required to be included within the repository for the repository to make the digital content available for use;

means for determining whether the request from the repository should be granted; and

means for transmitting the authorization object to the repository if the means for determining determines that the request should be granted.

80. (New) The system as recited in claim 79, wherein the authorization object comprises a key from a master repository.

81. (New) The system as recited in claim 79, wherein the repository is in a portable device.

82. (New) The system as recited in claim 79, wherein the repository is in a personal computer.

83. (New) The system as recited in claim 79, wherein the means for determining comprises means for determining whether a maximum number of authorization objects have been transmitted.

84. (New) The system as recited in claim 79, further comprising means for transferring the digital content in a protected form to the repository if the repository has an authorization object.

85. (New) The system as recited in claim 79, wherein the digital content is audio content.

86. (New) The system as recited in claim 85, wherein the audio content is music.

87. (New) The system as recited in claim 79, wherein the digital content is video content.

88. (New) The system as recited in claim 79, wherein the use of the digital content is rendering of the digital content.

89. (New) The system as recited in claim 79, wherein the means for determining and the means for transmitting are embodied in a single repository.

90. (New) The system as recited in claim 79, further comprising:

means for requesting transporting of the digital content in the repository;

means for determining whether a second repository is permitted to receive the digital content specified by the request; and

means for transporting the digital content to the second repository only if the second repository is permitted to receive the digital content.

91. (New) The system as recited in claim 79, further comprising:

means for requesting transport of digital content stored outside the repository;

means for determining whether the repository is permitted to receive the digital content specified by the request; and

means for transporting the digital content stored outside the repository to the repository only if the repository is permitted to receive the digital content.

92. (New) The system as recited in claim 79, further comprising:

means for requesting rendering of the digital content in the repository;

means for determining whether a request for rendering should be granted; and

means for rendering the digital content only if the determining step determines that the request for rendering should be granted.

93. (New) A system for controlling distribution and use of digital content in accordance with rights that are enforced by a repository, said system comprising:

a storage for storing digital content;

a first repository comprising:

means for requesting access to the digital content stored in the storage, and

means for granting a manner of use of the requested digital content in accordance with rights specified for governing use of the requested digital content; and

a second repository comprising

means for determining whether the first repository is permitted to receive the digital content specified by a request from the first repository,

means for granting access to the digital content, and

means for transmitting the digital content from the storage to the first repository only if the first repository is permitted to receive the digital content.

94. (New) The system as recited in claim 93, wherein the first repository is comprised within a personal computer.

95. (New) The system as recited in claim 93, further comprising a rendering device having a rendering engine coupled with the first repository for rendering the digital content.

96. (New) The system as recited in claim 95, wherein the rendering device and the first repository are comprised within a personal computer.

97. (New) The system as recited in claim 93, wherein the means for determining comprises means for checking if the first repository has an authorization object.

98. (New) The system as recited in claim 97, wherein the authorization object comprises a key from a master repository.

99. (New) The system as recited in claim 93, wherein the digital content is audio content.

100. (New) The system as recited in claim 99, wherein the audio content is music.

101. (New) The system as recited in claim 93, wherein the digital content is video content.

102. (New) The system as recited in claim 93, wherein the means for requesting access comprises means for generating a requested manner of use of the digital content, and wherein the means for determining only grants access to the digital content if the requested manner of use corresponds to an authorized manner of use.

103. (New) The system as recited in claim 93, wherein the rights are specified by the second repository.

104. (New) The system as recited in claim 93, wherein the rights are embodied in software instructions which implement the use privileges for the rights.

105. (New) The system as recited in claim 93, wherein the first repository is coupled to a storage media, and the means for transmitting transmits the digital content from the storage to the storage media.

106. (New) The system as recited in claim 105, wherein the storage media is an optical disk.

107. (New) The system as recited in claim 105, wherein the storage media, the first repository, and the second repository are embodied in a single physical device.

108. (New) The system as recited in claim 93, wherein the digital content comprises a composite digital work comprising plural digital works.

109. (New) The system as recited in claim 95, wherein the rendering device is a portable device.

110. (New) The system as recited in claim 93, further comprising means for authorizing the first repository for making the digital content available for use, wherein the digital content can be made available for use only by an authorized repository, the means for authorizing the first repository comprising:

means for making a request for an authorization object required to be included within the repository to make the digital content available for use;

means for determining whether the request for an authorization object should be granted; and

means for transmitting the authorization object to the first repository if it is determined that the request for an authorization object should be granted.

111. (New) The system as recited in claim 93, further comprising:

means for requesting rendering of the digital content;

means for determining whether the request for rendering should be granted; and

means for rendering the digital content by the first repository only if the determining step determines that the request for rendering should be granted.

112. (New) A system for controlling distribution and use of digital content in accordance with rights that are enforced by a repository, said system comprising:

a storage for storing digital content;

a first repository comprising:

means for granting a manner of use of the requested digital content in accordance with rights specified in the system; and

a second repository comprising

means for determining whether the first repository is permitted to receive the digital content,

means for granting access to the digital content, and

means for transporting the digital content from the storage to the first repository only if the first repository is permitted to receive the digital content.

113. (New) The system as recited in claim 112, wherein the rights are provided by a provider of the digital content.

114. (New) The system as recited in claim 112, wherein the manner of use of the requested digital content is rendering of the requested digital content.

115. (New) The system recited in claim 112, wherein the means for determining comprises checking whether a maximum number of the transport of the digital content have been made.

116. (New) The system as recited in claim 112, wherein the digital content comprises a composite digital work comprising plural digital works.

117. (New) The system as recited in claim 112, wherein the rights are embodied in software instructions which implement the use privileges for the rights.

118. (New) The system as recited in claim 112, further comprising means for authorizing a repository for making the digital content available for use, wherein the digital content can be made available for use only by an authorized repository, the means for authorizing the repository comprising:

means for making a request for an authorization object required to be included within the repository to make the digital content available for use;

means for determining whether the request for an authorization object should be granted; and

means for transmitting the authorization object to the repository if it is determined that the request for an authorization object should be granted.

119. (New) The system as recited in claim 112, further comprising:

means for requesting rendering of the digital content;

means for determining whether the request for rendering should be granted; and

means for rendering the digital content by the first repository only if the determining step determines that the request should be granted.

120. (New) An apparatus for transporting digital content in accordance with rights that are enforced by said apparatus, said apparatus comprising:

means for coupling with a receiving repository to transport digital content;

a storage for storing digital content;

means for requesting a manner of use of digital content stored in the storage;

a sending repository comprising:

means for processing a request from the means for requesting,

means for checking whether the request is for a permitted transport of the digital content in accordance with rights specified in the apparatus, and

means for processing the request to make the digital content available by the means for coupling to the receiving repository if the request is for a permitted transport of the digital content.

121. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 120, wherein the sending repository further comprising means for communicating to the receiving repository that use of the digital content by the receiving repository is to be in accordance with rights specified in the apparatus of the receiving repository.

122. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 120, wherein the manner of use of the digital content is rendering of the digital content.

123. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 120, wherein the means for checking comprises checking whether a maximum number of transports of the digital content have been made.

124. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 120, wherein the rights are provided by a provider of the digital content.

125. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 120, wherein the digital content comprises a composite digital work comprising plural digital works.

126. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 120, wherein the rights are embodied in software instructions which implement the use privileges for the rights.

127. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 120, further comprising means for authorizing the sending repository for making the digital content available, wherein the digital content can be made available only by an authorized repository, the means for authorizing the sending repository comprising:

means for making a request for an authorization object required to be included within the sending repository to make the digital content available; and

means for receiving the authorization object if it is determined that the request for an authorization object should be granted.

128. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 120, further comprising:

means for receiving requests for rendering of the digital content;

means for determining whether the request for rendering should be granted; and

means for rendering the digital content only if the determining step determines that the request should be granted and the receiving repository contains an authorization object.

129. (New) A method for controlling use of digital content in accordance with rights that are enforced by said method, said method comprising steps of:

receiving digital content and an associated authorization-ID identifying an authorization object;

receiving a request to use the digital content;

locating the authorization object based on the authorization-ID;

decrypting the authorization object;

executing a script associated with the authorization object; and

granting access to the digital content, comprising processing the digital content using the authorization object, if the executing step is completed satisfactorily.

130. (New) The method as recited in claim 129, wherein the digital content comprises a composite digital work comprising plural digital works.

131. (New) The method as recited in claim 129, wherein the request is for rendering the digital content in a medium that is not further protected by rights.

132. (New) The method as recited in claim 131 wherein the medium is an optical disk.

133. (New) The method as recited in claim 129, wherein the script comprises at least one portion for checking whether a maximum number of the uses of the digital content has not been exceeded.

134. (New) The method as recited in claim 129, wherein the script comprises at least one portion for checking whether a maximum number of the uses of a composite work comprising the digital content has not been exceeded.

135. (New) The method as recited in claim 129, wherein the authorization object comprises a key.

136. (New) The method as recited in claim 129, wherein the use of the content is rendering of the content.

137. (New) The method as recited in claim 129, wherein the use of the content is distribution of the content.

138. (New) An apparatus for controlling use of digital content in accordance with rights that are enforced by said apparatus, said apparatus comprising:

means for receiving digital content and an associated authorization-ID identifying an authorization object;

means for receiving a request to use the digital content;

means for locating the authorization object based on the authorization-ID;

means for decrypting the authorization object;

means for executing a script associated with the authorization object; and

means for granting access to the digital content, comprising processing the digital content using the authorization object, if the executing is completed satisfactorily.

139. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 138, wherein the digital content comprises a composite digital work comprising plural digital works.

140. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 138, wherein the request is for rendering the digital content in a medium that is not further protected by rights.

141. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 140, wherein the medium is an optical disk.

142. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 138, wherein the script comprises at least one portion for checking whether a maximum number of the uses of the digital content has not been exceeded.

143. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 142, wherein the script comprises at least one portion for checking whether a maximum number of the uses of a composite work comprising the digital content has not been exceeded.

144. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 138, wherein the authorization object comprises a key.

145. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 138, wherein the script is part of software and/or hardware implementing the apparatus.

146. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 138, wherein the use of the content is rendering of the content.

147. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 138, wherein the use of the content is distribution of the content.

148. (New) A system for controlling use of digital content in accordance with rights that are enforced by said system, said system comprising:

a server component providing digital content and an associated authorization-ID identifying an authorization object;

means for receiving the digital content and the associated authorization-ID identifying the authorization object;

means for receiving a request to use the digital content;

means for locating the authorization object based on the authorization-ID;

means for decrypting the authorization object;

means for executing a script associated with the authorization object; and

means for granting access to the digital content, comprising processing the digital content using the authorization object, if the executing is completed satisfactorily.

149. (New) The system as recited in claim 148, wherein the digital content comprises a composite digital work comprising plural digital works.

150. (New) The system as recited in claim 148, wherein the request is for rendering the digital content in a medium that is not further protected by rights.

151. (New) The system as recited in claim 148, wherein the medium is an optical disk.

152. (New) The system as recited in claim 148, wherein the script comprises at least one portion for checking whether a maximum number of the uses of the digital content has not been exceeded.

153. (New) The system as recited in claim 148, wherein the script comprises at least one portion for checking whether a maximum number of the uses of a composite work comprising the digital content has not been exceeded.

154. (New) The system as recited in claim 148, wherein the authorization object comprises a key.

155. (New) The system as recited in claim 148, wherein the use of the content is rendering of the content.

156. (New) The system as recited in claim 148, wherein the use of the content is distribution of the content.

157. (New) A method for controlling use of digital content, said method comprising steps of:

receiving digital content and an associated authorization-ID identifying an authorization object;

receiving a request to use the digital content;

locating the authorization object based on the authorization-ID;

decrypting the authorization object;

performing tests associated with the authorization object; and

granting the request to access to the digital content for the use, comprising processing the digital content using the authorization object, if the tests are successful.

158. (New) The method as recited in claim 157, wherein the digital content comprises a composite digital work comprising plural digital works.

159. (New) The method as recited in claim 157, wherein the request is for rendering the digital content in a medium that is not further protected by rights.

160. (New) The method as recited in claim 157, wherein the medium is an optical disk.

161. (New) The method as recited in claim 157, wherein the step of performing tests comprises testing whether a maximum number of the uses of the digital content has not been exceeded.

162. (New) The method as recited in claim 157, wherein the means for performing tests comprises testing whether a maximum number of the uses of a composite work comprising the digital content has not been exceeded.

163. (New) The method as recited in claim 157, wherein the authorization object comprises a key.

164. (New) The method as recited in claim 157, wherein the use of the content is rendering of the content.

165. (New) The method as recited in claim 157, wherein the use of the content is distribution of the content.

166. (New) An apparatus for controlling use of digital content, said apparatus comprising:

means for receiving digital content and an associated authorization-ID identifying an authorization object;

means for receiving a request to use the digital content;

means for locating the authorization object based on the authorization-ID;

means for decrypting the authorization object;

means for performing tests associated with the authorization object; and

means for granting the request to access to the digital content for the use, comprising processing the digital content using the authorization object, if the tests are successful.

167. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 166, wherein the digital content comprises a composite digital work comprising plural digital works.

168. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 166, wherein the request is for rendering the digital content in a medium that is not further protected by rights.

169. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 166, wherein the medium is an optical disk.

170. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 166, wherein the means for performing tests comprises testing whether a maximum number of the uses of the digital content has not been exceeded.

171. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 166, wherein the means for performing tests comprises testing whether a maximum number of the uses of a composite work comprising the digital content has not been exceeded.

172. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 166, wherein the authorization object comprises a key.

173. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 166, wherein the use of the content is rendering of the content.

174. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 166, wherein the use of the content is distribution of the content.

175. (New) A system for controlling use of digital content, said system comprising:

a server component providing digital content and an associated authorization-ID identifying an authorization object;

means for receiving the digital content and the associated authorization-ID identifying the authorization object;

means for receiving a request to use the digital content;

means for locating the authorization object based on the authorization-ID;

means for decrypting the authorization object;

means for performing tests associated with the authorization object; and

means for granting the request to access to the digital content for the use, comprising processing the digital content using the authorization object, if the tests are successful.

176. (New) The system as recited in claim 175, wherein the digital content comprises a composite digital work comprising plural digital works.

177. (New) The system as recited in claim 175, wherein the request is for rendering the digital content in a medium that is not further protected by rights.

178. (New) The system as recited in claim 175, wherein the medium is an optical disk.

179. (New) The system as recited in claim 175, wherein the means for performing tests comprises testing whether a maximum number of the uses of the digital content has not been exceeded.

180. (New) The system as recited in claim 175, wherein the means for performing tests comprises testing whether a maximum number of the uses of a composite work comprising the digital content has not been exceeded.

181. (New) The system as recited in claim 175, wherein the authorization object comprises a key.

182. (New) The system as recited in claim 175, wherein the use of the content is rendering of the content.

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183. (New) The system as recited in claim 175, wherein the use of the content is distribution of the content.